AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) An orotracheal suction system for suctioning obstructive material from the oropharynx and trachea of a patient, the system comprising:

a catheter having a distal end and a proximal end, a diameter of from about 0.5 Fr to about 15 Fr, and a length sufficient to engage the oropharynx and distal bronchi of the patient at the catheter distal end;

a seal at the distal end of the catheter;

an extension tubing operable for attachment to the catheter proximal end and extending a distance away from the patient's head and mouth; and

a reservoir operable to connect to the extension tubing and to collect the obstructive materials using a vacuum source;

wherein the reservoir comprises an entry compartment and a second compartment, wherein the compartments are separated by a grid operable to prevent obstruction of the vacuum by the obstructive material.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The orotracheal suction system of Claim 10, wherein the reservoir comprises a removable disc to empty the obstructive material from the reservoir.

14. (Previously Presented) The orotracheal suction system of Claim 10, wherein the catheter and extension tubing have a diameter to accommodate an obstructive food bolus.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The orotracheal suction system of Claim 10, wherein the seal comprises a balloon and wherein the catheter further comprises a balloon port to inflate the balloon.

17. (Previously Presented) The orotracheal suction system of Claim 10, wherein the extension tubing has a length of from about 3 feet to about 5 feet.

18. (Withdrawn) A method of removing an obstructive material from the oropharynx and trachea of a patient comprising:

providing

a catheter having a distal end and a proximal end, and a length sufficient to engage the oropharynx and distal bronchi of the patient at the catheter distal end;

a seal comprising a balloon at the distal end of the catheter; and

a reservoir having an entry chamber operable for connection to the catheter to collect the obstructive materials using a vacuum source;

disposing the distal end of the catheter into the oropharynx;

sealing the trachea by inflating the balloon at the distal end of the catheter;

drawing vacuum pressure through the reservoir and proximal end of the catheter to suction the oropharynx to remove the obstructive material; and

trapping the obstruction in the entry chamber of the reservoir.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, wherein the obstructive material is a foreign body, a mucous plug, or a food bolus.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, further comprising disposing the catheter distal end in the trachea above the distal bronchi.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 20, further comprising suctioning the bronchi.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, wherein the catheter further comprises a balloon port, and inflating the balloon comprises engaging the balloon port.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, wherein the catheter is connected to the entry chamber of the reservoir through an extension tubing attached to the proximal end of the catheter.

24. (Withdrawn) A method of removing an obstructive material from an oropharynx and trachea of a patient comprising:

providing

a catheter having a distal end and a proximal end, a diameter sufficient to accommodate a food bolus, and a length sufficient to engage the oropharynx and distal bronchi of the patient at the catheter distal end;

a seal comprising a balloon at the distal end of the catheter;

an extension tubing having a first and second end, operable for attachment to the catheter proximal end and extending a distance away from the patient's head and mouth; and

a reservoir having an entry chamber with a first connection and a second chamber with a second connection, the entry and second chambers being separated by a grid operable to keep large particles in the entry chamber; and

disposing the distal end of the catheter into the trachea and above the distal bronchi;

attaching the proximal end of the catheter to the first end of the extension tubing;

connecting the second end of the extension tubing to the first connection on the reservoir;

connecting a wall vacuum source to the second connection on the reservoir;

sealing the trachea by inflating the balloon at a distal end of the catheter;

drawing vacuum from the wall vacuum suction through the reservoir, extension tubing and catheter so as to suction the oropharynx and trachea to remove the food bolus; and

trapping the food bolus in the entry chamber of the reservoir.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 24, wherein the catheter has a diameter of from about 0.5 Fr to about 15Fr.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 25, wherein the catheter has a diameter of from about 8 Fr to about 15 Fr.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 24, wherein the extension tubing extends from about 3 feet to about 5 feet away from the mouth of the patient.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 24, wherein the extension tubing has a diameter of from about 0.5 Fr to about 15Fr.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 28, wherein the extension tubing has a diameter of from about 8 Fr to about 15 Fr.